

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 8 MAY 50

SUBJECT Railroad Workshop in Nis

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

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1. The railroad workshop in Nis is located within the area bordered by the main railroad station, Gvozdiceva Street, the livestock market, and the gypsy settlement "Crni Put". During the war the workshop was considerably damaged by allied airplanes. Repairs, begun after the war, have not yet been completed.
2. The factory directorate together with the administrative non-labor personnel numbers approximately 500. Approximately 2,000 workers are employed in the workshop, and the work is in one shift, i.e. from 7 a.m. to 3.30 p.m., with a half hour break for lunch. The majority of workers are from Nis, but about 500 are residents of neighboring villages. Approximately 500 of the workers are skilled, whereas the others are non-skilled and have attended only short instruction courses. Because of the inexperience of the majority of the workers, major defects often appear in finished machine parts and railroad cars.
3. Once a week, repaired engines and railroad cars are tested by a committee of experts made up of three engineers and other inspection officials. A so-called "flying group" (leteca partijs) made up of workers of varied skills, usually attends the tests in order to be on hand in case of an emergency or damages to the machinery.
4. The workshop is equipped with a sufficient supply of raw material obtained from domestic factories, with the exception of steel, products of colored metals and white metal. White metal is used for bearings of engine and car axles. The entire material is stored in six warehouses. The procedure involved in issuing the material is complex, and strict records are kept on any quantities issued.
5. A section of the workshop known as "Pogen Br. 3" is now in the final stages of construction. A new foundry and smithy are also being constructed, and will be equipped with modern machinery. According to the plan the workshops will be built in such a manner as to constitute one unit in itself.
6. The workshop is guarded night and day by the Industrial Militia, numbering 50 men. In addition, a unit of 15 trained Militiamen are responsible for fire precautions.

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Document No. 4  
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Class. Changed To: TS S C  
Auth.: H-10-2  
Date: 8 May 78

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